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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/996,327	11/21/2001	Saad A. Sirohey	GEMS:0181/YOD (120622)	3588
7590	08/17/2006		EXAMINER CHEN, WENPENG	
Tait R. Swanson Fletcher, Yoder & Van Someren P.O. Box 692289 Houston, TX 77269-2289			ART UNIT 2624	PAPER NUMBER

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 09/996,327	Applicant(s) SIROHEY ET AL.	
	Examiner Wenpeng Chen	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 May 2006.  
 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-76 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-76 is/are rejected.  
 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
         1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
         2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
         3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/30/06, 7/17/06</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**Examiner's responses to Applicant's remark**

1. Applicants' arguments, filed on 5/25/2006, with regard to art rejection have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection due to Applicants' amendments.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-61 and 69-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Taubman (US patent 6,778,709) in view of Keith et al. (US 5,881,176).

a. For Claims 1-20, Taubman teaches a method for selective handling of image data, the method comprising:

-- for Claim 1, storing data according to a decomposition level index and tessellation block indices, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated by wavelet decomposition, and the tessellation block indices refer to blocks tessellated from the data sets, wherein the data sets form part of an image data file that is wavelet decomposed and that is

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stored in a compressed form on a server independent of any a request from a client for data of the data sets; (Figs. 1, 4, 4a, 13; column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 33; column 5, lines 42-52; column 13, lines 60-62; column 14, line 11-13; column 15, lines 57-59 teaching the decomposition level index; column 19, lines 32-34 teaching the tessellation block indices; column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 59)

-- for Claim 1, selecting an area of interest of the image according to the decomposition level index and the tessellation block indices; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 59)

-- for Claim 1, accessing from the server the area of interest identified by the decomposition level index and the tessellation block indices; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 59)

However, Taubman does not teach that the wavelet decomposition is lossless as recited.

Keith teaches a method for selectively handling of image data that are also randomly addressable, the method comprising:

-- storing data according to a decomposition level index, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated by lossless wavelet decomposition, wherein the data sets form part of an image data file that is losslessly wavelet decomposed and that is stored in a losslessly compressed form. (column 8, lines 7-14; column 11, lines 12-15; column 16, line 10 to column 17, line 43 teaching reversible (lossless) wavelet decomposition)

It is desirable to have as broad as possible an application for an image-data handling method. Keith in column 34, lines 55-63 lists several applications. For a medical diagnosis, a lossless version of the image is requested. A lossless version of the image requires a lossless wavelet decomposition. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time

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of the invention, to include Keith's lossless wavelet decomposition for wavelet decomposing Taubman's image, because the combination provides complete reconstruction in medical images for medical analysis. The combination thus teaches:

-- for Claim 1, storing data according to a decomposition level index and tessellation block indices, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated by lossless wavelet decomposition, and the tessellation block indices refer to blocks tessellated from the data sets, wherein the data sets form part of an image data file that is losslessly wavelet decomposed and that is stored in a losslessly compressed form on a server independent of any a request from a client for data of the data sets.

Taubman further teaches:

-- for Claim 2, wherein the decomposition level index corresponds to a resolution level; (column 15, lines 57-59)

-- for Claim 3, wherein the tessellation block indices comprise a row index and a column index for addressing spatial coordinates of the blocks; (column 19, lines 32-34)

-- for Claim 5, wherein the blocks comprise a fixed block size; (Column 3, line 65 to column 4, line 16)

-- for Claim 6, wherein storing data comprises creating a plurality of addressable data blocks comprising a plurality of the blocks; (column 13, lines 60-62; column 14, lines 8-13)

-- for Claim 7, wherein each of the data sets comprises a hierarchical set of sub-bands, one set comprising a low frequency component at a lowest resolution level and each remaining set comprising high frequency components at successively higher resolution levels; (column 4, lines 17-33; Fig. 1)

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-- for Claim 8, wherein the high frequency components of at least one of the successively higher resolution levels are tessellated into sets of the blocks for each of the high frequency components; (column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 16; Each subband is partitioned.)

-- for Claim 9, wherein the decomposition level index corresponds to a resolution level of the respective data sets; (column 15, lines 57-59)

-- for Claim 10, wherein storing data comprises addressing the blocks for each of the sub-bands; (column 15, lines 57-59; column 19, lines 32-34)

-- for Claim 11, wherein the tessellation block indices correspond to spatial coordinates of the blocks within each of the sub-bands; (column 15, lines 57-59; column 19, lines 32-34)

-- for Claim 12, wherein selecting the area of interest comprises selecting at least one block of the blocks encompassing a selected area of interest; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 13, wherein accessing from the server the area of interest comprises retrieving the at least one block; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 14, wherein retrieving the at least one block comprises retrieving the at least one block for the high frequency components at the successively higher resolution level relative to a current local resolution level at a client; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 15, combining the at least one block for each of the high frequency components with the current local resolution level to reconstruct the area of interest at the successively higher resolution level; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

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-- for Claim 16, wherein accessing comprises reference marking the area of interest using the decomposition level index and the tessellation block indices; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claims 17-19, (1) wherein accessing comprises reconstructing the image in the area of interest using the tessellation block indices to retrieve the blocks selectively from storage, (2) wherein accessing comprises selectively transmitting data for at least one of the blocks corresponding to the area of interest using the decomposition level index and the tessellation block indices, (3) wherein accessing comprises forming an image data stream comprising data for at least one of the blocks encompassing the area of interest; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 20, wherein forming the data stream comprises creating an addressable superblock of the data for the blocks using the decomposition level index and the tessellation block indices, each of the blocks for each of the data sets being individually addressable within the addressable superblock. (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24; column 4a teaching a superblock consisting of 16 subblocks.)

Keith further teaches:

-- for Claim 4, wherein the lossless wavelet decomposition comprises lossless integer wavelet decomposition. (column 18, lines 14-37; column 11, lines 15-50)

b. For Claims 21-35,

For Claim 21, Taubman teaches a method for selectively displaying image data, the method comprising:

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-- for Claim 21, defining a spatial region of interest within an image based on a plurality of addressable blocks comprising a decomposition level index and tessellation block indices, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated from the image by wavelet decomposition, and the tessellation block indices refer to spatial blocks tessellated from the data sets, wherein the data sets form part of an image data file that is wavelet decomposed and that is stored in a compressed form on a server independent of any a request from a client for data of the data sets; (Figs. 1, 4, 4a, 13; column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 33; column 5, lines 42-52; column 13, lines 60-62; column 14, line 11-13; column 15, lines 57-59 teaching the decomposition level index; column 19, lines 32-34 teaching the tessellation block indices; column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 59)

-- for Claim 21, requesting a spatial group of the plurality of addressable blocks encompassing the spatial region of interest by referencing the blocks by the decomposition level index and the tessellation block indices; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 21, reconstructing the image within the spatial region of interest using the requested spatial group. (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

However, Taubman does not teach that the wavelet decomposition is lossless as recited.

Keith teaches a method for selectively handling and displaying of image data that are also randomly addressable, the method comprising:

-- storing data according to a decomposition level index, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated by lossless wavelet decomposition, wherein the data sets form part of an image data file that is losslessly wavelet decomposed and that is stored in a losslessly compressed form. (column 8, lines 7-14; column 11, lines 12-15; column 16, line 10 to column 17, line 43 teaching reversible (lossless) wavelet decomposition)



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It is desirable to have as broad as possible an application for an image-data handling and displaying method. Keith in column 34, lines 55-63 lists several applications. For a medical diagnosis with a display, a lossless version of the image is requested. A lossless version of the image requires a lossless wavelet decomposition. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to include Keith's lossless wavelet decomposition for wavelet decomposing Taubman's image, because the combination provides complete reconstruction in medical images for medical analysis with a display. The combination thus teaches:

-- for Claim 21, defining a spatial region of interest within an image based on a plurality of addressable blocks comprising a decomposition level index and tessellation block indices, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated from the image by lossless wavelet decomposition, and the tessellation block indices refer to spatial blocks tessellated from the data sets, wherein the data sets form part of an image data file that is losslessly wavelet decomposed and that is stored in a losslessly compressed form on a server independent of any a request from a client for data of the data sets.

Taubman further teaches a method:

-- for Claim 29, wherein requesting the spatial group comprises requesting at least one block of the spatial blocks for each of the high frequency components at one of the successively higher resolution levels relative to a current lower resolution level of the image data; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 30, wherein reconstructing the image comprises combining the at least one block for each of the high frequency components with the current lower resolution level to

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reconstruct the spatial region of interest at the successively higher resolution level; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 31, wherein requesting the spatial group comprises locating and retrieving each block of the spatial group from a remote storage device based on the decomposition level index and the tessellation block indices; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claims 32-34, wherein requesting the spatial group comprises recalling a local portion of the spatial group from local storage and retrieving a missing portion of the spatial group from remote storage, wherein (1) requesting the spatial group comprises tracking local presence or absence of each of the plurality of addressable blocks and (2) wherein requesting the spatial group comprises tracking local presence or absence of each of the data sets, which correspond to different image resolution levels of the image. (column 21, line 56 to column 22, line 15; Column 21, line 67 and column 22, lines 14-15 teach recalling a local portion and tracking local blocks, and retrieving a missing portion as recited.)

How the combination teaches the features recited in Claims 22-28 and 35 are shown above in the cited passages for teaching for teaching Claim 2-10.

c. For Claims 36-48,

For Claim 36, Taubman teaches a method for tracking image data, the method comprising:

-- for Claim 36, addressing data using a plurality of addressable blocks comprising a decomposition level index and tessellation block indices, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated from an image by wavelet decomposition, wherein the data sets form

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part of an image data file that is wavelet decomposed and that is stored in a compressed form on a server independent of any a request from a client for data of the data sets; (Figs. 1, 4, 4a, 13; column 3, line 66 to column 4, line 33; column 5, lines 42-52; column 13, lines 60-62; column 14, line 11-13; column 15, lines 57-59 teaching the decomposition level index; column 19, lines 32-34 teaching the tessellation block indices; column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 59)

-- for Claim 36, tracking presence or absence of the plurality of addressable blocks at a client via at least one tracking indicator; (column 21, line 56 to column 22, line 15; Column 21, line 67 and column 22, lines 14-15 teach recalling a local portion and tracking local blocks, and retrieving a missing portion as recited. The current resolution as displayed and information about code blocks that can be reused are tracking indicators.)

-- for Claim 36, handling data communication between the client and a server via the decomposition level index, the tessellation block indices and the at least one tracking indicator. (column 21, line 56 to column 22, line 15; Column 21, line 67 and column 22, lines 14-15 teach recalling a local portion and tracking local blocks, and retrieving a missing portion as recited.)

However, Taubman does not teach that the wavelet decomposition is lossless as recited.

Keith teaches a method for selective handling of image data that are also randomly addressable, the method comprising:

-- storing data according to a decomposition level index, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated by lossless wavelet decomposition, wherein the data sets form part of an image data file that is losslessly wavelet decomposed and that is stored in a losslessly compressed form. (column 8, lines 7-14; column 11, lines 12-15; column 16, line 10 to column 17, line 43 teaching reversible (lossless) wavelet decomposition)

It is desirable to have as broad as possible an application for an image-data handling and tracking method. Keith in column 34, lines 55-63 lists several applications. For a medical diagnosis with progressively refining a region of interest until the lossless version, a lossless version of the image is requested. A lossless version of the image requires a lossless wavelet decomposition. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to include Keith's lossless wavelet decomposition for wavelet decomposing Taubman's image, because the combination provides complete reconstruction in medical images for medical analysis. The combination thus teaches:

-- for Claim 36, addressing data using a plurality of addressable blocks comprising a decomposition level index and tessellation block indices, wherein the decomposition level index refers to data sets generated from an image by lossless wavelet decomposition, wherein the data sets form part of an image data file that is losslessly wavelet decomposed and that is stored in a losslessly compressed form on a server independent of any a request from a client for data of the data sets.

Taubman further teaches:

-- for Claim 42, wherein tracking comprises tracking local presence or absence of each set of the data sets, which correspond to different image resolution levels of the image; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 43, wherein tracking comprises toggling a Boolean flag. (column 21, line 56 to column 22, line 15; Column 21, line 67 and column 22, lines 14-15 teach recalling a local portion and tracking local blocks, and retrieving a missing portion as recited. The current resolution as displayed and information about code blocks that can be reused are tracking

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indicators. The code blocks are identified with the row index, column index, and resolution level. The client can decide which coding blocks are stored locally and which coding blocks need to be retrieved from the server. The decision can only be made from comparison with the row index, column index, and resolution level of all the code blocks required for rendering the ROI with the row index, column index, and resolution level of the code blocks already stored in the client. The comparison is a logical process. Thus the indicators of comparing the row index and column index are considered by the Examiner as the first Boolean flags, because it is either "1" or "0". )

-- for Claim 44, wherein handing data communication comprises requesting a spatial group of the plurality of addressable blocks, as needed based on the at least one tracking indicator, by referencing each block of the spatial group by decomposition level index and tessellation block indices; (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

-- for Claim 46, displaying the image within a spatial region of interest using the data that has been addressed, tracked and handled. (column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24)

How the combination teaches the features recited in Claims 37-41, 45, and 47-48 are shown above in the cited passages for teaching Claims 22, 23, 26-30, and 35.

d. For Claims 49-61

The combination teaches a system (Taubman: Figs 12 and 14) comprising an interface (Taubman: Figs 12 and 14) having modules.

Furthermore, Taubman teaches the system to have a memory device configured to store the plurality of addressable blocks. (Taubman: Figs 12 and 14)

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As discussed above with regard to Claims 1-48, the combination teaches that the system performs functions for addressing, tracking communication, display tracking, reconstruction and has properties recited in Claims 49-61. Therefore, the combination also teaches the systems recited in Claims 49-59.

For Claims 60-61, the combination further teaches that:

- the system comprises a decompression module configured for decompressing each of the addressable blocks. (Taubman: Figs 11-14; column 20, lines 40-68; column 21, line 37 to column 22, line 24 )

- wherein the system comprises a picture archiving and communication system. (Fig. 12; Images are archived in the server. Communication is done between the server and clients.)

e. For Claims 69-76

For Claim 69, the combination teaches a computer program comprising:

- a machine readable medium; (Taubman: column 21, lines 7-32)

- an addressing module stored on the machine readable medium, wherein the addressing module is configured for indexing data by decomposition level and spatial coordinates of tessellation, wherein the decomposition level refers to data sets generated from an image by lossless wavelet decomposition, and the spatial coordinates refer to blocks tessellated from the data sets; (Taubman: column 21, lines 7-32)

- a tracking module stored on the machine readable medium (Taubman: column 21, lines 7-32), comprising

- a tracking module stored on the machine readable medium, comprising

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- a tessellated block tracking module configured for tracking presence or absence of each of the plurality of addressable blocks at a client via a first Boolean flag; (Taubman: column 21, line 56 to column 22, line 15; Column 21, line 67 and column 22, lines 14-15 teach recalling a local portion and tracking local blocks, and retrieving a missing portion as recited. The current resolution as displayed and information about code blocks that can be reused are tracking indicators. The code blocks are identified with the row index, column index, and resolution level. The client can decide which coding blocks are stored locally and which coding blocks need to be retrieved from the server. The decision can only made from comparison with the row index, column index, and resolution level of all the code blocks required for rendering the ROI with the row index, column index, and resolution level of the code blocks already stored in the client. The comparison is a logical process. Thus the indicators of comparing the row index and column index are considered by the Examiner as the first Boolean flags, because it either yes"1" or no "0". )

- a decomposed level tracking module configured for tracking complete presence or complete absence of each of the data sets at a client via a second Boolean flag. (Taubman: column 21, line 56 to column 22, line 15; Column 21, line 67 and column 22, lines 14-15 teach recalling a local portion and tracking local blocks, and retrieving a missing portion as recited. The current resolution as displayed and information about code blocks that can be reused are tracking indicators. The code blocks are identified with the row index, column index, and resolution level. The client can decide which coding blocks are stored locally and which coding blocks need to be retrieved from the server. The decision can only made from comparison with the row index, column index, and resolution level of all the code blocks required for rendering

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the ROI with the row index, column index, and resolution level of the code blocks already stored in the client. The comparison is a logical process. Thus the indicators of comparing the resolution level are considered by the Examiner as the second Boolean flags, because it either yes "1" or no "0". )

How the combination teaches the features recited in Claims 70-74 are shown above in the cited passages for teaching their corresponding method claims.

Taubman further teaches computer program:

-- wherein the interface comprises a communication handling module configured for selectively communicating the spatial area of interest between the client and a server based on the decomposition level and spatial coordinates. (column 21, line 56 to column 22, line 15)

-- wherein the interface comprises a communication handling module configured for selectively communicating the spatial area of interest between the client and a server based on the decomposition level and spatial coordinates; (Taubman: column 21, line 56 to column 22, line 15; Column 21, line 67 and column 22, lines 14-15 )

-- wherein the tracking module comprises an ordering module configured for handling the data in a desired order based on the decomposition level and spatial coordinates. (Taubman: Fig. 8; column 20, lines 40-52)

How the combination teaches the features recited in Claims 70-74 are shown above in the cited passages for teaching their corresponding method claims.



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4. Claims 62-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Taubman (US patent 6,778,709) and Keith et al. (US 5,881,176) as applied to Claim 49, and further in view of Cooke, Jr. et al. (US patent 6,574,629.)

The combination of Taubman and Keith teaches the parent Claim 49.

However, the combination does not teach one of more imaging systems recited in the above-listed claims.

Cooke teaches PACS system, comprising:

- a PACS system; (column 33, lines 28-40)
- one or more imaging systems comprising an MRI system, a computed tomography system, a positron emission tomography system, a radio fluoroscopy system, a computed radiography system, and an ultrasound system. (Fig. 1; column 9, line 66 to column 10, line 51; column 34, lines 1-20)

It is desirable to decode a localized portion of a medical image efficiently for viewing and analysis. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to apply system and method taught by the combination to store and transmit various images used in Cooke's PACS system because the combination facilitates retrieval of interested regions in medical images for medical analysis.

### ***Conclusion***

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5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wenpeng Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7431. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella can be reached on 571-272-7778. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for regular communications and 571-273-8300 for After Final communications. TC 2600's customer service number is 571-272-2600.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.

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Wenpeng Chen  
Primary Examiner  
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August 15, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wenpeng Chen', written in a cursive style.